



II

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1966

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1966.

I have now completed my first full year as your Medical Officer, having taken up my duties as Assistant Medical Officer to the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council on April 1st, 1965.

I am now familiar with the district and its officers, and should like to express my thanks to them for their help and advice. I am also indebted to the members of the Committee for their ever-ready co-operation.

A special report of the Public Health Officer, Mr. E. Little is appended.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. Stafford

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

John Bryce Stafford
L.R.C.P. & E. D.P.H. (Eng.)

Surveyor and Public Health
Officer

E. T. Little, F.F.S.,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	21, 796 acres
Population (estimated mid-1966)	2, 600
Number of inhabited houses (April, 1966)	750
Rateable Value (April, 1966)	£52, 821
Sum represented by a penny rate	£205

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

England and
Wales

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	23	23	46
Illegitimate	2	3	5
<u>Total</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>51</u>

Live birth rate per 1,000 population 19.6 17.7

Illegitimate Live Births per cent
of total live births 9.8

<u>Stillbirths</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	1	1
<u>Total</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and
stillbirths 37.7 15.4

Total live and stillbirths 53

Infant Deaths (under 1 year) NIL

Infant Mortality Rate NIL
0.0 19.0

DEATHS

Males	7
Females	10
Total	17

Death Rate per 1,000 population 6.5 11.7

COMMENTS

Population

The estimated population for mid-1966, according to the Registrar-General, was 2.600, an increase of thirty on the previous year's estimate.

Statistics

The birth rate is again higher than that of the country as a whole, being 19.6 per 1,000 of the population compared with 17.7 for England and Wales. In 1965 our rate was 19.0 per 1,000.

The illegitimate birth rate of 9.8 per cent of total live births is high. In 1965 the rate was 4 per cent, although in 1964 it was even higher, 10.2 per cent. The stillbirth rate is also higher than that of England and Wales, being 37.7 per 1,000 live and stillbirths compared with 15.4 for the country as a whole.

I am happy to report that for the third year in succession there were no deaths of infants under one year of age. Our infant mortality rate is therefore NIL, compared with a rate of 19.0 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 6.5 per 1,000 of the population is again much lower than the rate for England and Wales, which is estimated as 11.7. In 1965 our death rate was 9.3 per 1,000.

Five of the seventeen deaths which occurred in the district during the year were due to malignant diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

8 Cases of Measles:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Under 1 year.....	-	-
1 year.....	-	-
2 years.....	2	2
3 years.....	-	1
4 years.....	-	1
5 - 9 years.....	-	2
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<u>TOTAL</u>	2	6

Laboratory Facilities

Ambulance Service

Nursing in the Home

Clinics

Immunisation and Vaccination

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The facilities of all the above services are the same as in previous years.

THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Thorney,
Peterborough.

June, 1967.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Sir,

I have the honour to present my 12th Annual Report in respect of the year 1966 as follows:-

NUISANCES

6 Nuisances were investigated as follows:-

Premises (disrepair)	...	...	...	3
Drainage	...	...	...	2
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	1

All Nuisances were abated as a result of informal action.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS (see also Appendix 1)

Number of factories with mechanical power	...	6
Number of factories without mechanical power	...	1
Number of inspections	...	8

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection of household refuse is carried out under private contract. Tipping is carried out by arrangement at the Peterborough Corporation controlled tip outside the district. No complaints have been received during the year.

PETROLEUM ACT, 1928

No new licences were issued during the year. Thirty-nine current annual licences are now in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at thirty-nine premises. Twelve inspections were carried out during the year.

MORTUARY

Following consultations with the Police Authority, the use of the Mortuary at Thorney has been permanently dis-continued.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications were received for Standard Improvement Grants in respect of sixteen properties and grants were awarded in each case. This represents a decrease of 16% compared with 1965.

Grants paid during the year totalled £3,353 in respect of the following amenities provided:-

Baths 15, Wash Basins 16, Hot Water Supply 16, W.C.'s 16, and Food Stores 2.

CARAVANS

Under the terms of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, three inspections were made of the single licenced site in the area. There are no multiple sites in the area of this Authority. No applications in respect of new sites were received during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

Bulk water consumption for the district was 34.2 million gallons, equivalent to thirty-six gallons per head per day in respect of the population served.

On chemical analysis, a sample of water taken in was shown to contain per million parts:-

Total solids dried at 180 deg. C.	...	...	484.00
Suspended matter	...	...	Absent
Cholorides as Chlorine	...	...	35.5
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate	...	...	0.82
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate	...	...	0.00
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	0.004
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	0.004
Temporary Hardness	...	...	230.00
Permanent Hardness	...	...	158.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27 deg. F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	...	...	0.16
pH Value	...	...	7.1
Appearance	...	...	Clear & Bright
Odour	...	...	Normal
Taste and Colour	...	...	Normal
Heavy Metals	...	...	Absent
Free Chlorine	...	...	0.08
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 deg. C. in 72 hours.	...	...	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 deg. C. in 24 hours.	...	...	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 deg C. in 48 hours.	...	...	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 deg. C. in 48 hours	...	...	0
Bacillus Coli (presumptive) absent in	...	...	100 mls.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ANALYSIS

This sample of water falls into Class 1 (excellent) of the Ministry of Health's classification of piped water supplies and is also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Five samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY (continued)

WORKS

No. of new connections provided	...	...	...	6
Domestic	...	...	...	3
Metered	...	...	...	3
Air valves repaired	...	...	...	1
New sluice valves fixed	...	...	...	1
Sluice valves repaired	...	...	...	5
New fire hydrants fixed	...	...	...	Nil
Fire hydrants repaired	...	...	...	3
Consumer meters repaired	...	...	...	21
Existing services repaired or renewed.	...	...	...	6
Stop-cocks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Burst Mains repaired	...	...	...	17
Marker posts replaced	...	...	...	2

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

Little progress can be reported on the proposed new sewage disposal works for Thorney village, but site acquisition negotiations are now completed and the scheme is ready for submission to the Ministry. This matter continues to be urgent, particularly in the light of a further private estate which has received planning approval, and the continuing low standard of effluent from the existing out-dated and over-loaded treatment plant.

A scheme for the provision of a foul sewer to serve Station Road in the village of Thorney has now been approved for submission to the Ministry.

The replacement of the pumping plant and general modernisation of the two existing sewage pumping stations was completed during the year.

DISINFESTATION

No call was made on this service during the year.

FOOD PREMISES

All food premises were inspected during the year.

Food Inspection

No cases of unsound food were dealt with during the year.

COUNCIL HOUSING

No new houses were erected during the year, and whilst there is a small list of applicants, a re-view of these showed no case of urgent need.

The Council may however consider it prudent to consider the acquisition of some building land for possible future use, as continuing demand within easy reach of Peterborough is likely to lead to increasing land values and shortage of sites in the permitted development area.

Repairs were carried out in 155 properties by direct labour during the year.

HOUSING (GENERAL)

No private houses were erected during the year.
1 demolition order was made during the year.

BUILDING BYLAWS

Seventy-three sets of plans were deposited in respect of 133 new buildings and/or works. 102 visits and inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE

Nuisances	...	...	...	7
Water Supply	...	...	...	72
Factories & Workshops	...	...	...	8
Foodshops	...	...	...	7
Canteens	...	...	...	1
Mobile Vans	...	...	...	1
Drainage & Sewage	...	...	...	52
Drainage (new work)	...	...	...	27
Caravans	...	...	...	3
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	4
Sewage Works	...	...	...	32
Sewage Pumping Stations	...	...	...	19
Street Numbering	...	...	...	6
Road Safety	...	...	...	1
Rodent Control	...	...	...	21
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	37
Committees, etc.	...	...	...	16
New Buildings	...	...	...	102
Planning	...	...	...	12
Council Houses	...	...	...	57
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	39
Petroleum Acts.	...	...	...	12

Number of Interviews

Office.....	131
Private.....	34

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to convey my thanks for the co operation which I have received during the year from members of the Council and staff in all the above work.

E. T. LITTLE,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

APPENDIX 1
Factories Act, 1961

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	6	6	-	-
Other Premises	-	-	-	-
	7	7	-	-

NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Floor Drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a. Insufficient					
b. Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	
c. Not separate for sexes					
Other offences	-	-	-	-	

